

Service of Worship — December 19, 2021

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that Some have entertained angels without knowing it." — Hebrews 13:2

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! Thank you for worshiping with us today.

ELDER ON DUTY: Ric Cummings

HEAD USHER: Steve Becher

HEARING ASSIST DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE. Please ask at the sound booth.

"Pray for one another" — James 5:15
We encourage you to remember the following in prayer:

All Grieving the Death of a Loved One

Surgeries/Hospitalizations/Illnesses

Cancer Treatment: Kathy Jonas

Aging Challenges: Shirley Sisk

Military Service: David Zak, C.J. Bradley, Seth Lorimer, Mary E. Johnson II, Alanna Funk, Bryce Hearn,

Shannon Lorimer. All veterans, deployed military, and reservists.

Our Mission Co-Workers: Jeff and Christi Boyd in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Leslie Vogel, PC (USA) Regional Liaison for Guatemala and Mexico.

Peace and Relief Workers; Unemployed and Underemployed; Families Struggling with Separation and Divorce; Individuals Struggling with Depression; Those Contemplating Suicide and Those Left Behind.

Heartland Presbytery Partnership of Prayer: Kaw Prairie Community, Lenexa, KS; Heartland Presbytery Committee on Representation; Support staff and volunteers of our churches.

(If you have a prayer request you'd like to include in the bulletin, please contact the church office at office@gcpc.org, or send to gcpc_prayers@yahoo.com.)

SPOTLIGHT

UPCOMING MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS

"SONGS OF THE SEASON" will be presented today – 4th Sunday of ADVENT by Chancel & Exaltation! Singers and Instrumentalists* – Linda Dover, organist, Rebecca Prater and Patrick O'Halloran, directors

Songs include:

"Rise, Shine!" by Marques L. A. Garrett & Tom Trenney
"What Strangers Are These?" arr. Dan Forrest
with Katie Hearn, flute & Christopher Callender, guitar
"Shepherd, Play Your Pipes Tonight"
by Mark Shepperd – with Bob Dover, clarinet
"Angels We Have Heard on High"
arr. Mack Wilberg – with Linda Dover, organ
"Peace On Earth" by Christopher G. Krug

*A safety note about this choral presentation: Chancel Choir & Exaltation! Singers I, II, & III will combine to present their songs LIVE in the sanctuary from the choir loft. All singers are fully vaccinated, will be masked, and will be distanced from each other and the congregation. As always, this worship service will also be available online to view and participate in.

CHRISTMAS EVE MUSIC

5pm Family Service — Joy!, Celebration!, & Exaltation! Singers **8pm A Service of Lessons and Carols with Candlelight** — Chancel & Exaltation! Singers

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS — SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

Music shared by Carrie DeVries & Donna Goeckler and Kate Trigger Duffert & Cal Sweeten, dulcimer

THE LONGEST NIGHT (BLUE CHRISTMAS), TONIGHT, 7PM: This service is for those who find the holidays less joyous because of missing loved ones or experiencing life circumstances that are difficult. Find compassion, understanding, and support through hope and love. The Praise Team will share their songs. (This service will be in person only, not available virtually.)

WEEKEND CRAFTERS MEGA EDITION MINI-RETREAT! Open craft time, 3 instructor-led classes, fellowship, fun surprises, craft supplies donation table and more! Friday, January 21, 6–10pm, and Saturday, January 22, 9am–4pm, Heartland Hall. \$40 registration fee/per person to cover the supplies cost for the instructor-led classes (1 Friday night for charity and 2 on Saturday), and meals/snacks on Saturday. FULL DETAILS and registration form available at www.gcpc.org/megacraft. Open to ALL — members, friends and family. Age 16+ only. For more information, contact Kim Krueger, Christy Soule or Lauren Bond.

CARE KITS: Our youth packed care kits that you are free to take and pass out to people on street corners or wherever you see someone who could use one. Look for baskets between the doors of the main entrance and Weekday Entrance with Zip-lock bags full of goodies. Take as many as you desire.

THIS YEAR'S STEWARDSHIP THEME IS, "GIFT — GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER." This year we ask each other to help one another out as we make plans for what we see as a wonderful opportunity to share in God's grace. This is necessary so we can have a timely and accurate budget for the year. Visit gcpc.org/gift2022.

CONTACTING STAFF: A reminder that the GCPC church building has returned to normal operations. The office is open from 8am to 4pm, but the best way to reach a staff member is by e-mail:

Rev. Sue: sue.trigger@gcpc.org Rev. Mitch: mitch.trigger@gcpc.org

Rebecca Prater (music dir.): rebecca.prater@gcpc.org
Miles McDonald (youth dir.): miles.mcdonald@gcpc.org

Patrick Bell (office admin.): patrick.bell@gcpc.org
Tara Hyder (finance admin.): finance@gcpc.org

HOW TO PLEDGE DURING THIS TIME: Although we are now offering in-person worship, we encourage those who normally put their pledge in the offering plate each Sunday to mail their pledges to the church. The Finance Administrator will get them and see that they are deposited in a timely fashion. Of course, you may also make your pledge online by going to gcpc.org and clicking "Online Giving."

ADULT

FOLLOW ME — **BIBLICAL PRACTICES FOR FAITHFUL LIVING:** Come for a unit, come for a class, or come every Sunday! Take a look at what's coming up:

• **December 5–January 2:** Hope: Hope is Waiting in Faith

This adult class will meet in **Room 3 at 10:45am.** Or join via Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/yanmupj9.

CHURCH (PCUSA) AND SOCIETY: Appropriately for the Advent Season the Church and Society adult education class will be **The Troubled Land of Jesus' Birth** (December 5, 12, 19). Pastor Mitch traveled to this area in 2014 and will share his perspectives along with discussion leader Dave Pack. Others who have travelled to this area are encouraged to share their experiences. The class will meet in **Room 4 at 10:45am**, or join via Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/krd5pz84.

YOUTH

SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY! Hope to see you today at 10:45 — breakfast snacks provided. As always let Miles know ahead of time if you want to join via Zoom.

WE WILL NOT BE HAVING SUNDAY SCHOOL on the 26th of December or the 2nd of January

TONIGHT, WE WILL JOIN KNOX PRESBYTERIAN for a Christmas party! Come wearing your favorite ugly Christmas sweater (there will be a prize for the best one). We will leave church at 5:45, so be here by then! There will be a white elephant gift exchange (funny gifts only, \$15max, homemade is fair game). Pizza will be provided; however, we are asking you all to bring an appetizer, snack, or dessert to share. It is going to be a super fun night!

CALLING ALL SHEPHERDS! We need 5 or 6 shepherds for the 5:30pm Christmas Eve service. No prior shepherding experience necessary — and you get to wear fun shepherd clothes! Please let us know if you are in town and available.

MISSION

NEED A GIFT FOR SOMEONE WHO HAS EVERYTHING? Consider an Alternative Gift Certificate! This year you have a choice — buy your Alternative Gift Cards online or in person! Both options run through December 19. We have gift certificates ranging from \$1 to \$50, supporting causes from clean water in South Sudan, to stocking Rosehill Elementary with art supplies and medicines for the nurse's office.

- Online: Look online at www.gcpc.org/gift to see your options. You can pay online through the GCPC giving portal or send a check to the church office. You'll get more instructions about payment options when you submit your order. You'll get your certificates by e-mail from Mikki Walker within a few days of submitting your order. You can then print them out or save them on your computer to e-mail on to the lucky recipient.
- In Person: Look for a table outside Heartland Hall between worship and Sunday school, and for 15 minutes after Sunday School ends. You can pay with cash or check, or online, and walk away with your certificates right away.

Send an e-mail to michala.walker@gmail.com with any questions!

ARGENTINE BABY CLOSET — **HELP KC-AREA BABIES THIS CHRISTMAS!** Let's celebrate the birth of Jesus by helping babies! Operated by Argentine Presbyterian in KCK, Argentine Baby Closet helps moms in need with diapers, formula, clothes, and other items to ensure that their babies grow up healthy and strong. In 2021, ABC has served more than 300 children (an increase of nearly 100 from 2020). Strong donor support has let them increase their support, serving families once a month instead of every 2 months. They've also been able to enlist a Spanish-speaking

volunteer, increasing their ability to serve Spanish-speaking families. ABC's most needed items currently include:

- •Diapers -size 4 & 5
- •Formula Similac brand is preferred
- •Coats, PJs & clothes-sizes 18 months to 3T

Drop donations in the Weekday Entrance bin anytime you're at church. If you'd like to just make a cash donation, our Communion offering in December will be directed to ABC as well. Just drop a check in the offering, or send one in the mail indicating that it's for Argentine Baby Closet anytime this month. You can also give online and choose the "Communion" fund. Let Mikki Walker know if you have any questions, michala.walker@gmail.com.

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PAD: Click this link: https://bit.ly/GCPCattendance, or scan the QR Code below, and it will take you to the link.

